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STATE OF MONTANA

BULLETIN

OF THE

Department of Public Health

Vol. 4 August 15, 1911 No. 5

MONTANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

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HELENA, MONTANA

Published Monthly at Helena, by the State Board of Health.

"The science of disease prevention, if properly applied, can add fifteen years to the present average length of human life."—Prof. Irving Fisher, Yale.



Helena, Montana, August 7th, 1911.

Dr. T. D. Tuttle, Secretary,
Department of Health,
Helena, Mont.

Dear Sir:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 1st inst., in which you ask my opinion upon the following questions all pertaining to Chapter 130, Laws of 1911:

"Would a store selling cigars and tobacco, etc., also candies, be classed as a confectionary store?" "Would a general store carrying candies be classed as a confectionary store?" In my opinion neither of the classes mentioned, under the provisions of said chapter 130, would be classed as a confectionary.

Confectionary is defined by Webster and also in "Words and Phrases," as "a place where sweetmeats and similar things are made and sold." In neither of the places referred to by your inquiry are confections made, but are simply sold in the original package as furnished by the manufacturing or jobbing confectioneries, and for that reason would not come within the provisions of said chapter 130.

"Would a housekeeper serving meals to a regular number of boarders be classed as conducting a hotel or restaurant?"

"Would a housekeeper having two or four regular roomers and boarders be classed as conducting a hotel?" In answer I would state that in my opinion neither housekeeper could be classed as conducting either a hotel or restaurant. "A hotel is a place kept for the entertainment of casual guests; a boarding house is kept principally for the residence of permanent boarders." (From "Words and Phrases" p. 350). "A restaurant is a place to which a person resorts for the temporary purpose of obtaining a meal," ("Words and Phrases" p. 6181). In both of the instances cited by your inquiry the establishment is a private concern and is not such as is contemplated by the provisions of Chapter 130, Laws of 1911.

"Would a grocery store selling bread and pies, milk and cream be classed as a bakery or dairy or both?" The provisions of said Chapter 130, Laws of 1911, apply to a bakery pure and simple, and its provisions would not apply to a store handling the manufactured product. (See Section 10, Chapter 130, Laws of 1911).

"Would a grocery store handling fowls, live or dead, be classed as a meat market?" In my opinion a store handling live fowls would not come within the provisions of said Chapter 130, Laws of 1911, but any place of business handling dressed fowls, would, in my opinion, be classed as a meat market, and would come within the provisions of Section 10, Chapter 130, Laws of 1911.

Yours very truly,

ALBERT J. GALEN,
Attorney General.

THE GREATEST ASSET.

From the earliest times, man has been the unfortunate victim of disease—forced throughout the centuries to bear the chagrin of feeling that all the devastation and destruction of life were from causes entirely beyond his control. "The truth," said a South Carolina professor no longer ago than 1852, "is that all diseases, fevers particularly, come direct from God and to what end we know not precisely, but to a good one we may be certain. Why, if there were no fevers provided for us we would be deprived of one of the means of quitting this world and it is worse than worthless to speculate upon the causes which generate these disorders!" And that was just about the universal opinion in regard to disease and death well nigh within the memory of the older heads of this audience.

But in 1822 there was born a poor French tanner's son, who, from the viewpoint of humbleness of birth, modesty and simplicity of life, seriousness of character and purpose, matchless love for humanity, great and eternal lasting service to the world, was destined to stand without a peer, head and shoulders above the men of all time—save the lowly Nazarene. From early youth, the boy displayed marked genius linked with an unbounded love for science; and in the early sixties when all the scientific world was wrought up, arguing and theorizing about the origin of the various forms of life, he quietly though eagerly sought the truth by experiment after experiment. His soul was literally fired with enthusiasm and a burning desire to find and learn the great hidden secrets of Nature. After fully convincing himself that no life can or does exist without a previous and similar life, he appeared before the great Academy of Sciences in Paris. "I shall force them to see. They must see!" said he as he performed the simple experiments that dealt mortal blows to the doctrine of spontaneous generation. The Academy was amazed. The proof was as clear as daylight. No one could doubt the great truth thereby established. However, there were some, as there always are, who either do not believe their own eyes or doubt just for the sake of controversy. They were somewhat like the old country lady who, on going to the circus, saw a giraff for the first time. For a while she gazed at the ungainly creature in perfect consternation, then turning to her

husband, exclaimed, "John, there ain't no sech animule!" But just as sure as there is such an animal, just so sure was the "germ theory" that day established by those simple experiments—and the realm of the infinitesimally small had been entered.

Thus was inaugurated, less than fifty years ago, a revolution that was the most formidable ever known and which shook the medical profession to its very foundations. And today we all proclaim ourselves apostles of Louis Pasteur, the greatest revolutionary every known in medicine!

On the broad substantial foundations laid by this greatest pillar of science, his co-workers and successors have builded the framework of a vast superstructure whose completion bids for the banishment of disease. "Persevere in effort. Seek the microbe," said Pasteur, "for by so doing it is within the power of man to rid himself of all contagious diseases." Though then looked upon as a mere Utopian dream, that statement is today the motto and inspiration of the medical world. Already, the specific germs of nearly all the most dread diseases have been discovered and, in many instances, transformed from destructive to preservative agents, by the masterful hand of science. And today, with meagre funds and limited support, is being launched and waged a wouldbe worldwide campaign for public sanitation and preventive medicine—the ounce of preventive being recognized as worth many, many pounds of cure. "No spit—no consumption!" "No filth—no flies; no flies and pollution no typhoid." "No mosquitoes—no malaria and yellow fever." "No vaccination exemptions—no smallpox!" "No soil contamination—no hookworms!" Such as these are the battle cries of the twentieth century warriors against disease—and they are winning, O they are winning in every properly planned battle. "By their fruits ye shall know them," said the Great Teacher, so let us look at some of the fruits of modern medicine, a few concrete examples of which will prove to the most doubting Thomas that science can master disease.

During the Spanish-American war, typhoid fever killed five times as many American soldiers as did the Spanish bullets. Out of an army of 107,000 men there were 20,100 cases of typhoid and 1,050 deaths. Nearly one-fifth of the soldiers had the disease and one out of every sixty-eight died. While in

the recent Russo-Japanese war, with an army of 1,200,000 soldiers, the Japs lost only 310 from typhoid—just one to 4,000. Our army took no precautions against flies. Their's did.

In 1887, when the French were trying to dig the Panama Canal, there was an annual death rate on the Isthmus of 100 per 1,000 chiefly due to malaria and yellow fever. Since then, it has been reduced to 25 per 1,000 as an almost direct result of mosquito killing by Col. Gorgas, who has been at the head of the United States Sanitary Commission since 1905. And in that little country of 120,000 inhabitants, this means the annual saving of 9,000 human lives.

In countries and districts where successful vaccination is required and enforced, smallpox is practically unknown. Purely by very limited sanitary and medical improvements during the decade 1890-1900, the average duration of life was increased four years in the United States, making it 34.5. While in India where sanitation and medicine are unknown, the average duration of life has remained unchanged for more than three decades, and is only 23 years. O yes, science is mastering disease and prolonging life!

But, why this great campaign against disease and death? After all, of what value is human life?

A few months ago the census taker was abroad in the land. From his reports will be tabulated the valuations from which the total wealth of the United States can be ascertained. But will this summary be correct? Will it contain all that is valuable? The census will give the number of men, women, and children just as it does the number of horses, cows, and sheep; but it will not give their economic value in dollars and cents. The last estimate, by the government expert, placed the material wealth of the nation at about \$108,000,000,000. Now, let us seek the additional money value of its inhabitants. From Prof. Irving Fisher's "Report on National Vitality" (whose reliability no one doubts) we learn that the average value of each person now living in the United States is about \$2,900 and the average value of lives now sacrificed by preventable deaths \$1,700. Therefore our population of 90,000,000 is worth in round numbers \$250,000,000,000—nearly two and a half times as much as all the material wealth. And since the number of preventable deaths is estimated at 630,000, the amount of waste from this source is about \$1,000,000,000,

which is the annual preventable loss from potential earnings. Again, there are always 3,000,000 people in the United States on the sick list, of whom about 1,000,000 are in the working period of life, and three-fourths actual workers, each of whom must lose on the average at least \$700 per year, making the direct initial cost of illness more than \$500,000,000; to which must be added another \$500,000,000 for the expenses of medicines, medical attention, special foods, etc., thereby making our total annual cost of illness more than \$1,000,000,000, of which it is assumed that at least half is preventable. Adding the preventable loss from death, \$1,000,000,000, to the preventable loss from illness, \$500,000,000, we find that one and a half billion dollars—fifteen hundred million—is the very lowest at which we can estimate the annual preventable loss from disease and death in this country!

"But is not the body more than raiment and life more than meat?" Man is more than an animal. He has in addition to his economic value, (although it is American to place the dollar mark on everything), a higher value—a humanitarian value. Surely, this value existing in all, but in such quantity as to stand out in bold relief in the lives of Washington, Lincoln, Lee, Franklin, Pasteur, Shakespeare, Wordsworth, Milton, can not be reduced to terms of money. Who could estimate the world's loss had any one of these men been a victim of preventable death as is 25 per cent of all people before their twentieth year is reached? Or, who can compute humanity's loss when untimely and preventable tuberculosis cut off in their prime such men as John Paul Jones, Robert Louis Stevenson, Von Weber, Chopin, Lanier, Thoreau, with many others? And yet, how many of just such as these do we bury among the 40,000 innocent, helpless, hopeful babies, dead every year in the United States from preventable causes—the annual sacrifice of our boasted civilization to the Molock of ignorance and indifference? Think of the unnecessary infant graves over which might truthfully, though pathetically be inscribed:

"Some mute inglorious Milton here may rest,
Some Cromwell guiltless of his country's blood."

O! how plain it is that our nation's greatest asset is by far the health of its people. Then is not its first duty the protection of this invaluable resource at all hazards? Emerson declares that, "The first wealth is health." Ex-President Eliot,

of Harvard, that "The one indispensable foundation for the enjoyment of life is health." Gladstone that, "The first duty of the statesman is the care of the public health," while Mr. Roosevelt, in closing his great conservation speech, said: "Let us remember that the conservation of our natural resources, though the greatest problem of today" (several years ago) "is yet but a part of another and greater problem to which this nation is not awake, but which it must hereafter grapple if it is to live—the problem of national efficiency"—national health, if you please.

"Public health is the foundation upon which rests the happiness of the people and the power of the State. Take the most beautiful kingdom—give it intelligent and laborious citizens, prosperous manufacturers, productive agricultur; let arts flourish, architects cover the land with temples and palaces; and in order to defend all these riches, have first rate weapons, fleets of torpedo boats, regiments of armies; but if the population tends to decrease yearly in stature and vigor, that nation must perish."

Spoken almost a century ago were these historically prophetic words of the great English Minister Disraeli, but oh, how applicable are they to our own nation at the present time—the land of seemingly unlimited resources that is increasing its armaments for war with great haste while its sons burn the candle of life at both ends with alarming rapidity, filling insane, blind, epileptic, and similar institutions faster than they can be built—men old at thirty, dead in the early prime of life! O, awful, awful thought—the decay of manhood and decline of nations!

Having now seen (all praises to Pasteur) that man's greatest enemy is conquerable; that the strongholds of century-worn disease can be broken down; that a nation's greatest asset is by all odds a healthy populace; and that its first duty is the protection of this inconceivably great priceless wealth; the question naturally arises: What is the United States doing? In what light does our Government hold the conservation of public health.

Not long ago a little mother awoke to the awful discovery that her tired feelings, emaciation, and dry cough had been but symptoms of the dreaded tuberculois, for now the unmistakable hemorrhage had come. She was but twenty-five and

didn't want to die, so she wrote to her State Board of Health to learn how she might live to rear her three dear children to useful citizenship—only to get this heart-breaking reply: "The great Christian State of Indiana (yet Indiana spends nearly four times as much for public health as does North Carolina) is not yet awake to the mighty economy of saving the lives of its mothers. At present, the only place you can go is to the grave. However, after you are dead the State will care for your children in an orphan asylum, and when they get a little older employ a special agent to find homes for them. But save you life—NEVER!" "The State can't afford it. It ain't business," said the Legislature. So the little mother died—one of our 200,000 yearly victims of the preventable and cureable Great White Plague. The home was broken up and the helpless, motherless babies were shipped off to the orphan asylum!

About the same time in the same State, a farmer discovered that one of his hogs was a little sick. He at once wired for help. The next train brought one of Uncle Sam's 3,000 Department of Agriculture expert investigators. The man was a doctor of veterinary medicine and with his Government syringe and Government medicine saved the hog's life and prevented an outbreak of cholera.

The hog had a money value, therefore worthy of Government aid, but not so with the little mother!

Last year Congress appropriated more than \$800,000,000—70 per cent of which was for wars past and wars anticipated, the lesser foe; and only 1 per cent for the direct campaign against disease, the greater foe. Think of it! \$560,000,000 (including the pensions) to fortify forts, construct giant engines of murder, and maintain the army and navy as the nation's defense against a possible future adversary; and only \$8,000,000 to fight the enemy whose countless warriors are already within our borders, encamped in our homes, and gnawing at our very vitals—the enemy that is giving the undertaker a daily business of 4,000 graves to dig! In other words, in this day of so called peace, we are spending, all in all, more than 70 per cent—\$560,000,000, of the nation's revenues to buy and maintain guns and ammunition, and only one per cent—\$8,000,000, to insure healthy men to shoot them!

Surely the time has come when we can no longer afford to look upon disease as wholly providential and unpreventable. This life was intended for health and happiness, not disease and distress. Man is his brother's keeper and in the light of present knowledge someone has broken God's eternal law. "Thou shalt not kill," every time there is a preventable death. Then, without neglecting other things, O, give us a National Board of Health, composed of the world's brightest intellects; endow it plenteously with millions in order that it may most effectively turn all the searchlights and gatling guns of science against the common enemy; fortify it with enforceable quarantine and preventive laws that have teeth; before it is everlastingly too late, let its education, upbuilding, vitalizing influence be felt in every State and county and school and home throughout the land if we would that Columbia shall forever lead and proudly, triumphantly wave her stars and stripes foremost in the galaxy of nations—remembering that only so far as manhood is developed can a nation permanently, for

"Ill fares the land, to threatening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

—By J. P. Quinerly in N. C. Bul., May, 1911.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORTED FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 1911.

SMALLPOX—Cases of Smallpox were reported as follows: Beaverhead 1; Great Falls 1; Chouteau 3; Custer 1; Jefferson 4; Park 1; Powell 3; total 14; total last month 17.

DIPHTHERIA—Cases of Diphtheria were reported as follows: Broadwater 1; Carbon 1; Cascade (Excl. of Great Falls), 2; Great Falls 4; Dawson 3; Anaconda 1; Meagher 1; Ravalli 1; Yellowstone (Excl. of Billings), 1; Billings 3; total 18; total last month 12.

SCARLET FEVER—Cases of Scarlet Fever were reported as follows: Cascade 1; Chouteau 1; Custer 3; Helena 1; Missoula City 3; Ravalli 1; Sanders 2; Butte 4; Billings 1; total 17; total last month 27.

TYPHOID FEVER—Cases of Typhoid Fever were reported as follows: Carbon 3; Cascade (Excl. of Great Falls), 2; Great Falls 2; Chouteau 4; Custer 4; Kalispell 1; Jefferson 1; Madison 1; Missoula City 4, (all imported); Livingston 1,

(imported); Butte 2; Yellowstone (Excl. of Bilings), 3; Billings 4; total 32; total last month 22.

MEASLES—Cases of Measles were reported as follows: Carbon 6; Custer 3; Gallatin (Excl. of Bozeman) 1; Bozeman 5; Musselshell 13; Butte 1; total 29; total last month 106.

Deaths (Exclusive of Stillbirths) Reported to the State Board of Health for the Month of July 1911. Arranged According to Counties and Cities.

	Spotted Fever	Small Pox	Tuberculosis	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Typhoid Fever	Meningitis	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Nephritis	Organic Heart Disease	Acute Intestinal Diseases	Violence	Suicide	Alcoholism	All Other Causes	Totals
Beaverhead										1				1		1	2	5
Broadwater													3					3
Carbon			1									3	1				2	8
Cascade (Excl. of)			1	1						1			2				3	7
Great Falls							1			1		2	4	1			8	22
Chouteau			1					2						2				7
Custer			1	1							1		3	1	1		2	10
Dawson														4			4	10
Deer Lodge (Excl. of)			1											1			1	3
Anaconda													1				3	4
Fergus			1										1	2	1		1	6
Flathead (Excl. of)			1								3			3			3	10
Kalispell												1					3	4
Gallatin (Excl. of)							1							1			1	3
Bozeman												1						2
Granite			1								1						1	3
Jefferson							1							1			1	4
Lewis and Clark (Excl. of)											1		1				2	3
Helena			5					1	1	2	1			2	1	1	5	19
Lincoln									1	1		1				1		3
Madison																	1	1
Meagher														4		1	2	9
Missoula (Excl. of)											2							
Missoula City			2											3	2		5	12
Musselshell													1	1				2
Park (Excl. of)										1		1		2			2	6
Livingston			1															3
Powell			1											1				4
Ravalli							1		1		2		1	4		2	2	14
Rosebud														1				3
Sanders														1				1
Silver Bow (Excl. of)			4						1	1		1	2		4	1	6	20
Butte			6		1		1			2	6	3	3		7	2	21	52
Sweet Grass															1	2		3
Teton															1			3
Valley			1							2			2	2				9
Yellowstone (Excl. of)												2		1				2
Billings									1			2		4	3		2	15
Totals			27	2	2		7	1	4	8	17	18	13	21	58	16	5	292

Population 375,000.
 Monthly death rate per thousand, 739.
 Annual Death Rate per thousand, 8.90

**Births Reported to the State Board of Health for the Month of July, 1911,
and Comparative Birth and Death Rate in the State.**

	Males	Females	Totals	Deaths	Excess of births	Excess of deaths
Beaverhead	5	1	6	5	1	
Broadwater	3	4	7	3	4	
Carbon	14	17	31	8	23	
Cascade (Excl. of)	13	12	25	7	18	
Great Falls	21	22	43	22	21	
Chouteau	15	18	33	7	26	
Custer	28	9	37	10	27	
Dawson	17	26	43	10	33	
Deer Lodge (Excl. of)	3	..	3
Anaconda	11	10	21	4	17	
Fergus	13	7	20	6	14	
Flathead (Excl. of)	8	13	21	10	11	
Kallispell	10	7	17	4	13	
Gallatin (Excl. of)	3	6	9	3	6	
Bozeman	13	6	19	..	19	
Granite	2	3	5	2	3	
Jefferson	1	6	7	3	4	
Lewis and Clark (Excl. of)	4	1	5	4	1	
Helena	8	7	15	19	..	4
Lincoln	3	4	7	3	4	
Madison	7	..	7	1	6	
Meagher	5	4	9	..	9	
Missoula (Excl. of)	6	5	11	9	2	
Missoula City	12	14	26	12	14	
Musselshell	2	2	4	2	2	
Park (Excl. of)	5	5	10	6	4	
Livingston	6	9	15	3	12	
Powell	3	1	4	4	..	
Ravalli	19	7	26	14	12	
Rosebud	3	1	4	3	1	
Sanders	5	..	5	1	4	
Silver Bow (Excl. of)	16	19	35	20	15	
Butte	31	29	60	52	8	
Sweet Grass	2	1	3	3	..	
Teton	14	8	22	3	19	
Valley	14	16	30	9	21	
Yellowstone (Excl. of)	8	6	14	2	12	
Billings	12	17	29	15	14	
Total	360	325	685	292	393	

TO THE FLY.

Most injurious Typhoid Fly,
Drink with you no more will I.
When you settle on my cup,
I perchance bacteria sup;
After what I've seen today
I would have you chased away.
I dislike those feet of thine,
What they've touched I shall decline.
Carrier of germ and spore,
Get thee hence! Return no more!
Spreader of disease, begone!
Kindly leave my feed alone
Thy habits are not good to see
Nor will they bear scrutiny.

—ANONYMOUS CUSS.